Sri K. KENCHAPPA.—I rise to a point of order. The Hon'ble Minister was pleased to say that if the land is not available for gomal it cannot be given; is it not against the provisions of law to say that there is no scope for Government to acquire land and give it for gomal ?

Sri Kadidal MANJAPPA.—I am positive that there is no provision in law compelling the Government to acquire land for gomal purposes. Perhaps the Hon'ble Member is relying on certain section in the Revenue Manual.

Reversion of First Division Clerks in the Revenue Department in Bellary District.

*Q.—21. Sri M. M. J. SADYOJATHAPPIAH (Harapanahalli).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that some Second Division Clerks in the Revenue Department in Bellary District who were promoted as First Division Clerks before 1st November 1956 and who were exempted from passing the departmental tests on the ground that they are above the age of 45 years have now been reverted after about 3 years of service in the First Division cadre ;

(*b*) whether such clerks are exempted from passing tests in the ntegrated areas ?

A.—Sri Kadidal MANJAPPA (Minister for Revenue).—

(*a* Yes. It is a fact that in the absence of qualified officials, some II Division Clerks in the Revenue Department in Bellary District who were not qualified had been temporarily promoted by the Deputy Commissioner, Bellary, subject to passing the prescribed tests. They had not been granted exemption from passing the tests. The exemption granted in general to officials who are over 45 years of age is for them to earn increments but not for promotions. As these officials who were promoted on certain conditions did not qualify themselves by passing the tests and as other qualified candidates became available, they were reverted.

(*b*) Yes. As stated above, the exemption is only to enable the officials to draw increments but not for promotions.

Sri M. M. J SADYOJATHAPPIAH.—I have no supplementaries.

Election of President of Harapanahalli Panchayat.

*Q.—22. Sri M. M. J SADYOJATHAPPIAH (Harapanahalli).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether any request has been made to the Deputy Commissioner, Bellary, to postpone the election of the President of Harpanahalli Panchayat ;

(*b*) whether the Government has directed the Deputy Commissioner to postpone the election ;

(*c*) whether the election was postponed ;

(*d*) if not, why it was not postponed ?

A.—Sri T. SUBRAMANYA (Minister for Law, Labour and Local Self-Government).—

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) It was found tha postponement of election was not permissible in this case.

Sri M. M. J. SADYOJATHAPPIAH.—Under which rule the Government has directed the Deputy Commissioner to postpone the election ?

Sri T. SUBRAMANYA.—It was thought that the election could be postponed because of the new enactment we have passed. Harapanahalli becomes a municipality when the new Bill is enforced and therefore we did not want to have two elections in the course of six or seven months. We asked the Deputy Commissioner to examine the request made and report to Government whether it is feasible to postpone the election.

Sri M. RAMAPPA.—Who has mad the request ?